

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY BY POUCH
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 063336

STADIS/////////
KUALA LUMPUR ALSO FOR GLEYSTEN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, OTRA, KS

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - KOREA

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/K - ROBERT G. RICH, JR.

1. FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS TO RESUME (LOU).

THE HOUSE KOREA INVESTIGATION SUBCOMMITTEE WILL
RESUME PUBLIC HEARINGS NEXT WEEK. HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED
MARCH 15 AND 16 TO COVER THE PERIOD FROM 1968 TO 1972. ON
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MARCH 21 AND 22, THE SUBCOMMITTEE WILL TAKE TESTIMONY ON
THE PERIOD FROM 1973 TO 1975. THE ONLY PRESENT OR FORMER
STATE OFFICIALS SCHEDULED TO TESTIFY ARE: AMBASSADOR
MARSHALL GREEN, AMBASSADOR WILLIAM PORTER, AND FORMER
KOREA COUNTRY DIRECTOR DON RANARD. AMBASSADOR GREEN WILL
LEAD OFF AND IS EXPECTED TO PRESENT AN OVERVIEW OF THE
ASIAN POLICY CONTEXT IN 1968. EA/K WILL COVER THE HEARINGS.

2. KOREAN AMBASSADOR GOING HOME FOR CONSULTATIONS (CONF).

AMBASSADOR KIM YONG-SIK WILL DEPART MARCH 18 FOR SEOUL ON CONSULTATIONS AND TO ATTEND A CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE FOR NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA. HE EXPECTS TO BE GONE FROM WASHINGTON ABOUT TWO WEEKS.

3. SENATOR WEICKER REQUESTS TESTIMONY ON DEPARTMENT'S KNOWLEDGE OF KOREAN MISBEHAVIOR (CONF).

FOR SOME TIME WE HAVE BEEN PREPARING DOCUMENTATION WITH THE EXPECTATION THAT THE FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE WOULD REQUEST A SENIOR DEPARTMENT WITNESS TO TESTIFY REGARDING WHAT INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT AND WHEN CONCERNING ANY IMPROPER EFFORTS BY KOREAN OFFICIALS OR NATIONALS TO INFLUENCE U.S. EXECUTIVE OR LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS, AND TESTIMONY AS TO ACTIONS BY DEPT. OFFICIALS ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE. IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE WILL NOT SEEK SUCH TESTIMONY. WE UNDERSTAND INFORMALLY THAT THEY ARE RELATIVELY SATISFIED WITH STATE'S ACTIONS AND WILL FOCUS ON POSSIBLE SHORTCOMINGS IN THE RESPONSE OF OTHER AGENCIES SUCH AS JUSTICE.

NOW WE HAVE RECEIVED A REQUEST FROM SENATOR WEICKER
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FOR THE SECRETARY TO TESTIFY APRIL 18 BEFORE THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE, JUSTICE, AND COMMERCE ON THE FULL RANGE OF MATTERS DESCRIBED ABOVE, COVERING THE PERIOD FROM 1967 TO 1976. WE ARE IN CONTACT WITH "H" AND PLAN TO EXPLORE FURTHER WITH WEICKER'S STAFF BEFORE SUGGESTING A FORMAL RESPONSE TO THE SENATOR.

4. STATE AND FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE CONCLUDE UNDERSTANDING ON CLASSIFIED MATERIAL (UNCL).

PARALLELING A SIMILAR AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BY JUSTICE FEBRUARY 27, THE DEPARTMENT'S LEGAL ADVISOR SIGNED AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THE FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE MARCH 6 GOVERNING TERMS OF ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED MATERIAL IN CONNECTION WITH THE KOREA INVESTIGATION. CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE WILL BE REVIEWED IN STATE AND REMAIN AT ALL TIMES IN OUR CUSTODY. SENSITIVE SOURCES MAY BE DELETED BEFORE MAKING AVAILABLE FOR REVIEWING. NOTES MAY BE TAKEN, BUT THESE NOTES ARE TO BE REVIEWED BY STATE, ARE TO REMAIN CLASSIFIED, AND WILL ALSO BE THE PROPERTY OF STATE AND SUBJECT TO

RECALL EVEN THOUGH PERMITTED TO BE HELD TEMPORARILY IN
SUBCOMMITTEE FILES. NO FURTHER DISSEMINATION OF

DOCUMENTS OR STAFF NOTES IS PERMITTED WITHOUT THE
DEPARTMENT'S PERMISSION. STAFF NOTES TAKEN DURING
PERSONAL INTERVIEWS WITH STATE PERSONNEL WILL BE GOVERNED
BY THE SAME RULES. ONLY FOUR MEMBERS OF THE FRASER SUB-
COMMITTEE STAFF ARE AUTHORIZED ACCESS IN TERMS OF THIS
UNDERSTANDING. CIA AND NSA ARE CONCLUDING SIMILAR AGREE-
MENTS.

5. ROKG REACTS TO POSSIBLE DELAY ON EX-IM LOAN FOR
NUCLEAR POWER (CONF) - TOP ROKG ECONOMIC OFFICIALS
HAVE EXPRESSED IN STRONGEST TERMS DEEP CONCERN TO
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AMBASSADOR SNEIDER OVER POSSIBLE DELAY IN THE APPROVAL
OF THE EX-IM LOAN FOR TWO NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS IN KOREA.
THEY MADE IT CLEAR THAT, WHILE THEY FAR PREFER PURCHASING
FROM AMERICAN SOURCES, THE ROKG WILL TURN TO EUROPEAN
SUPPLIERS IF SENATOR STEVENSON CONTINUES TO CONDITION
APPROVAL OF THE LOAN ON FORMER AMBASSADOR KIM TONG-JO
TESTIFYING BEFORE CONGRESS. THE ROKG IS CONCERNED BOTH
BY COST INCREASES THE DELAY WOULD CAUSE, AND ON THE
POLITICAL EMBARRASSMENT. MEANWHILE, THE FRENCH AND
GERMANS ARE BEHAVING LIKE VULTURES IN SEOUL, NOT EVEN
WAITING FOR THE BODY TO COOL BEFORE SWOOPING DOWN ON
THE LUCRATIVE CONTRACTS.

IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION AT THE NOON PRESS BRIEFING
MARCH 7, THE DEPARTMENT STRESSED THAT TESTIMONY OF
FORMER ROKG DIPLOMATS AND APPROVAL OF EX-IM LOANS ARE
SEPARATE ISSUES, THAT AMERICAN SUPPLIERS ARE FACING
STIFF INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION, AND THAT FINANCING
IS A VITAL PART OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING.

6. TONGSUN PARK COMPLETS HOUSE ETHICS TESTIMONY (CONF) -
ON MARCH 9, TONGSUN PARK COMPLETED A TOTAL OF SEVEN DAYS
OF TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE IN CLOSED
SESSION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ON THE FIRST THREE DAYS
PARK WAS PRESSED HEAVILY ON HIS LINKAGE WITH THE
ROKG, AND THAT THE FINAL FOUR DAYS COVERED MUCH OF THE
SAME GROUND EXPLORED BY JUSTICE IN SEOUL, WITH NO
SURPRISES. ROK CONSUL GENERAL HAS MET WITH PARK ONCE
ON MARCH 6 IN OFFICE OF COUNSEL HUNDLEY. PARK REPORTEDLY
SAID HE IS BEING TREATED WELL AND IS FREE TO COME AND GO
SUBJECT TO SECURITY CONSTRAINTS. HE FOUND THE HOUSE
ETHICS COMMITTEE MOST DEMANDING, HOWEVER, CLOSED HEARINGS
BEGIN ON THE SENATE SIDE MARCH 13. VANCE
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NOTE BY OCT: POUCHED.

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